

PATENT

DK-US010764

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Hiromune MATSUOKA :
Serial No.: New – (National Phase of :
PCT/JP03/02815) :
International filing date: March 10, 2003 :
For: CONNECTION STRUCTURE OF :
COOLANT PIPE OF AIR CONDITIONER :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant brings the attached references to the Examiner's attention and requests that they be considered and made of record in this application. Also attached is a completed PTO-1449 form. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application. Thus, *no fee is believed to be due for this Information Disclosure Statement*. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

Japanese Laid-Open Utility-Model Patent Publication No. 51-128024 appears to disclose a connection structure having various materials overlying the connection structure and interposed between the parts. The International search report indicates that this publication is relevant to claim 2 of this application.

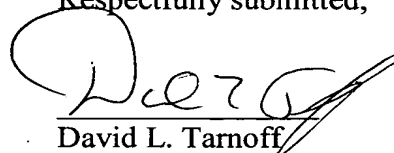
Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 4-000136 appears to disclose an electrically insulating joint is inserted in both connecting surfaces of a gas refrigerant pipe 8

and a liquid refrigerant pipe 9 made of electrically conductive material and arranged between a room unit 1 and an outdoor unit 2. The International search report indicates that the full text and Figure 1 are relevant to this application. An English abstract is also provided to better understand this publication.

* * *

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


David L. Tarnoff
Reg. No. 32,383

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known **10/506833**

Application Number	New-PCT/JP03/02815 Nat'l Phase
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Hiromune MATSUOKA
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	DK-US010764

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP-51-128024-U	10-16-1976	Noguchi et al.		No
		JP-4-136-A	01-06-1992	Yamada	Fig. 1	No
		JP-7-65783-A	03-10-1995	Usui		Yes
		JP-10-54498-A	02-24-1998	Komuro	Fig. 1	Yes
		JP-2000-329273-A	11-30-2000	Saji	Figs. 1 and 2	Yes

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**